

## THE COLUMBIA EVENING MISSOURIAN

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### THE VALUE OF MINORITIES

What is the value of a minority party? Would not the settlement of public policy be made easier if the political division were reduced to two parties? Why should a citizen cast his vote for a party which is known to have no chance of electing its candidates? These are questions which the public-minded citizen occasionally asks himself when confronted in a national election by candidates representing four or five different parties.

It must be admitted that sometimes one result of this multiplicity of parties is the election of a president by less than a majority of the voters. This may weaken the power of an administration to carry out the policies upon which it was elected. It is sometimes urged that were the minority parties eliminated and the contest limited to the two dominant political groups a more accurate division of opinion could be had. This might be true were elections in the United States fought on a single issue as is sometimes the case in England, but when there are a dozen or more issues which the voter is asked to consider, the doubt as to what issue the people really held paramount would still remain.

To give importance to a single issue which might otherwise be too willingly disregarded by the statesmen of the majority is the real and important function of the minority parties. The prohibition party is an example of this. The prohibition vote was seldom large enough in itself to have seriously affected the result of a national election. Yet it was an index which kept the prohibition sentiment of a much larger body of voters before Congress.

The Socialist, the Farmer-Labor and other minority parties really do a public service in calling attention to the value of new and untried ideas. When there is great merit in these ideas they are often adopted by the stronger parties and become in time a part of our political and economic system. The Populist party, which almost carried Bryan into the White House, practically died out within a few years after the unrest which brought it into being subsided, but it bequeathed its ideas to the majority parties and today we live under most of the laws which it proposed. Every forward looking statesman has borrowed much from the Socialist—although few will admit it.

To eliminate the minority parties would be to make the advocacy of new ideas more difficult—to hamper the expression of popular opinion. It is their part, being unbound by the restraint of administrative responsibility, to develop in the crucible of discontent the ideas which others may adopt and make serviceable to the people.

Beauty of face is an accident for which there is no insurance.

Harding's claim that he is "unboasted" might be disputed by Mrs. Harding.

Picture show ad: We have to have good features for you to come to the movies, but you can have any kind of features and get in.

### THE GERMAN LANGUAGE

The German language has never had a war. It has as many words of love; it is as full of feeling and is more full of music than any other language.

In use lies in the fact that many people speak it. It was spoken freely before the war in American business; at one time it was the court language of England.

Its value to us will lie in its revival.

to prove that America is big enough to assimilate the war as with a nation and not a language. One cannot take the philosophies out of Faust if one keeps the drama; so we cannot discard the German language if we would keep the soul-stirring music of her composers.

In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries when Goethe—known as excellent in every literary genre—and Wagner—the originator of music drama—were startling the world with their genius, Germany was under the rule of the "Longheads." Later she came under the misrule of the "Roundheads."

The "Longheads" were German scholars and musicians. Their life work belongs to the world, because art is universal, and for that reason alone German language is inestimable to mankind.

The World War has disillusioned the Germans living in America. Their ancestors emigrated to America during the reign of the "Longheads" when the soul of Germany caught the whispers of the winds into rhapsodies; when her aim was culture and she was pushing steadily toward the light. Then the "Roundheads" came and her martial music was hushed in her halls and set to the rhythmic time of marching feet.

Should we do away with the German language we should have to rewrite our histories and our encyclopedias; for should the German language become obsolete the men who made it almost divine in its spread would no longer be of enough moment to fill their pages.

America accepted last December the work of German hands in a shipload of toys; will she now deny access to the German soul as voiced in grand opera?

We do not intend that the brute force of Germany—as displayed in World War—shall rob us of a tongue that has spoken to us in drama, philosophy, instrumental music and grand opera.

But for greater reasons than these, must the German language be revived in America; to show the foe, whom we helped to crush, that we are ready to recognize her upon her rightful plane—a powerful nation, capable of high things.

While the saying "if you want peace, prepare for war" is not consistent with the League of Nations, one might suggest that "if you want peace, prepare for peace."

"If I did, I would not have returned here," said the head of the New York City garment workers union when asked if he would care to live under Russian bolshevism. He had just described his experiences in a recent tour of Russia. Although he returned he said that the Russians were doing the best they could under the conditions existing there.

### 100,000 VS. 70,000

Recent figures suggest a back-to-the-home-building movement. During the last year in the United States there have been 100,000 marriages and only 70,000 homes established. What does this mean? According to other figures, it means higher rates of divorce.

We must get back to home-building if we would prosper as a community and nation. Too many of us dote on happiness in a flat or in an apartment. We are trying to make home mean four or eight walls. We forget in the rush of events and in our mad attempts to make dollars, that the Nation's biggest asset is a big home account.

Taking the home and the home spirit out of a nation is like taking the foundation from under a great structure and expecting it to stand. Marriage without home is like a great ideal never put into practice.

Some of us are prone to be "modern" and think marriage is fine sentiment and homes old-fashioned. This may be true. However, if the Nation can receive as much benefit in the next decades from this institutions as it has in the past, then love and marriage is a worthwhile sentiment, and homes are lasting good fashions.

A back to the home-building movement will do as much as a decade of gatherings of senators and representatives in solving the unmet problems of this country. Let us go back and try it.

Journalism Editorial Text Nov. 20. The Junior English test of the School of Journalism will be held from 9 until 11:30 o'clock Saturday morning, November 20, in the auditorium of Jay H. Neff Hall. All regular students in the school who have not passed such a test since entering the school are expected to take the examination. A passing grade is a requirement for graduation.

## On Other Campuses

A "Thundering Thousand" has caught the attention of students at the University of Oregon. All students want to join but it seems that most of them expend their voices in exhorting their companions to howl. Possibly, like the Thundering Thousand of Kansas University fame, they will come to a ludicrous end when they try a trip away from their home campus.

Water polo is to be one of the minor sports at the University of Oregon this year.

A freshman is not allowed to sit at the head of a table in the cafeteria at the University of Virginia. Freshmen are also required to attend all athletic contests.

Women students at the Southeast Missouri State Teachers' College, Cape Girardeau, serenaded the men the other evening. The men responded by entreating "Aw, sing another one!"

Barbecued oxen will furnish the big part of the menu for Homecoming Night at the University of Iowa, Friday, November 12.

Federal Board students at the University of Washington have organized a house club. It bears the distinctive name of "Après la Guerre Club."

About 5000 students are expected to enroll in the 1920-21 short course in agriculture at the University of Wisconsin. The state gives a \$30 a month bonus to each student in this department.

Homecoming at the University of Illinois, October 29 and 30, drew ten thousand graduates and former students back to the campus. On Friday night the military department of the University staged "The Battle of Seicheprey," in the Armory. Later in the evening the women of the University had charge of a carnival in the same building. Raffle wheels, side shows, "Days of Old," the African dodger (white), with the women students as barker and ballyhoosers, kept the center of the dirt floor packed with undergraduates and graduates standing in line to spend their money.

A more notable feature of the Homecoming at Illinois was the dedication of fifteen senior memorial chimneys, the

biggest senior bells installed in any university in the United States. They will be hung in Library Tower. Houses were decked in orange and blue, the Illinois colors. The Indian headdress, the classic sign of the school, formed the center of many decorations. Flood lights, flaming torches and bonfires lit up the town on the evening preceding the game with Minnesota.

The inter-fraternity basketball season at the University of Washington opened October 26. The Sigma Chi and Beta Theta Pi fives are attracting the most attention, according to newspaper notices.

At the University of Iowa the manager of the Howling 300 is having some trouble in keeping that number of men in line and dateless. Last Sunday he came out with combined threat and plea to the men to stay in the howling section—even though the girl must go with another man.

In passing, it may be noted that the University of Iowa has a new faculty possession. Its name is "state epidemiologist" and the man who fills it is Dr. Donald M. Griswold. He came into public notice a few days ago when he said that the flu is not likely to return this year.

Columbia University students who aspire to tread the slick and tricky path of creative literature are proud of the reappearance, for the first time since the war, of the Morningside Magazine. The policy of the first Morningside Magazine was "to publish stories and verses and things that are generally uninteresting. Essays and news, in fact, all wholesome bread and meat, we shall not attempt to furnish." The latest issue drew a complimentary letter from Dean W. E. Hawkes of the faculty.

Irving Berlin, Mary Earl, Victor Herbert and others, are not listed among the students enrolled for the newly-instituted course in the psychology of music at John Hopkins University. The course will cover the psychology of hearing, the psychological principle of underlying melody, harmony and rhythm and the musical art work. The sponsors do not guarantee not to kill any sparks of genius burning in the students who enroll.

### The Poor Blind Man

Webster's definition of a cynic is the cynic's most scathing condemnation. Many young persons, immature in judgment, take pride in ascribing their cynicism. Turning to Webster and weighing synonyms would silence not a few. A cynic is defined as a morose person having the qualities of a surly dog; a snarler; a misanthrope.

The fact that all cynics are eager to discuss their lack of faith or at least their agnosticism, proves that they are unhappy in their philosophy of life. Those of you who never so much as entertained a blue devil in all your lives need read no further, for the rest of this article will be directed to the victims of a band of blue devils.

You can slay every cynical thought that enters your mind if you choose, by the simple process of placing in juxtaposition to that thought your own personal knowledge of some good. Not a good word to be by some writer or minister, but one you yourself have witnessed or experienced.

You knock the modern church. It is the favorite target of the cynic. It is true that many of her creeds are outgrown. She needs a new suit of clothes. The old suit of literal interpretation which once served its purpose, which was patched and still did very well, is now threadbare and must be cast aside for a new suit. The church, we grant, is still trying to patch, still hates to fit her form to the new suit of evolutionary theory. But give her time. The old suit may be threadbare, but Christianity has not failed.

If you have reasoned and practiced together the rules of right living put down in the New Testament, you know that only by following those rules can a man maintain a state of mental balance and physical well being. Skepticism is mental disease. Disease. There's your proof. Simple enough. Mental disease. You never saw a skeptic who was easy in his mind.

The brain and the body actually rot and decay in just such measure as the laws of right living are disregarded. You know that is true and yet you regard Christianity, with all these laws well codified, as impractical. Christianity is the only practical force in the world to-day.

You say you are regarded as a freak. You should strive every day to become normal. That should be one of the objects of your daily consciousness—it to reach an average viewpoint. It is the normal life that touches most other lives, receives the soundest impressions and gives the greatest service. Living on a level beneath normal is degrading and leads to decadence of power. Living on a level above normal precludes insight into the hearts of men, and leads to selfishness and isolation of the ego. You must live among men, by men and for men with faith in all men.

But, you say, how can there be faith? Look at the revelation of man—his art, his literature, his civilization. It is the very garbage of the brain! Have you no secret sins? Weigh the beautiful and the good in civilization with the dregs. Weigh the beautiful and good in your own soul with the residue of evil.

Strike proportions. You have a faith in the mastering good in yourself. Can you not have a faith in the proportional mastering good in the whole of selves, the union of atomic selves which we call humanity?

You would have friends, but you demand that you be sought for the serious worth that lies deep in you. Voyagers of old sought new lands not less by the attractions of strange fields and forested mountains than for hidden straits of gold. There must first be a lure, an attractiveness. You must bow a bit to customs of dress and convention and by these so-called artificial means draw to you multitudes. After being drawn, the men of insight will come to love you for a worth deeper than externals. But it is legitimate to attract. It is not base. The cynic loses sight of the value of means in his exaggeration of the end.

All cynics wish they were not cynics, speaking dolefully of being disillusioned. No word is more out of place. It should suffer discomfiture standing by the word cynic. The cynic is not disillusioned. He is blinded. Evil has fallen on him like a veil.

We are all cynics at some point in life, or try to be. Sometimes it amounts to no more than occasional attacks of mulligins. The best cure is the physical exercise of a smile. Consistently employed, it gets under the skin, revivifies the blood and clears the action of the heart.

### THE NEW BOOKS

#### "Man to Man."

A world-roaming hero? a cattle ranch; a landgrabbing cattle king, granddaddy to the hero; a wild-driving, provincial hero-line with a tongue like Xantippe and a figure like some goddess or other; a cluster of very awful, licker-guzzling villains; a barehand fight in the dark; a barehand fight in the Ace of Diamonds saloon; a bit of gun-play with the odds running one hero vs. fourteen big and little villains and the hero winning; a bit of ranch finance; more villain business; a scanty touch of comedy; a thrill or two; an understanding of misadventure; the killing of the grand villain, all happening in the clear cool dawn of a new day—stretch it over 367 pages of good book paper and you have something very nearly like Jackson Gregory's latest bit of craftsmanship, "Man to Man."

The title should attract many clerks, messenger boys, members of Congress, business men and others who read to rest their minds. The surprises are all in the proper places and not a slat of the plot is left unutilized when the final page is reached. Guaranteed to keep the reader awake until it is finished and to put him to sleep as soon as the light is turned out thereafter.

(Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, cloth, 367 pages, with frontispiece and three illustrations.)

**LARGEST R. O. T. C. UNIT NOW**  
Need Now Is for Students to Continue in the Course.  
The Missouri R. O. T. C. unit is progressing very well, according to Col. William E. Persons, commandant of the corps. There are more students taking military training this year than at any

other time in the history of the corps. There was a larger enrollment last year, but many were excused.

The corps is much farther advanced than at this time last year; in fact, it is at practically the same point it occupied last spring. For the present time, at least, the unit is well supplied with officers to carry on the work, most of the cadet officers having held commissions either in the army or at some military school.

The great need at present in the R. O. T. C. is said Colonel Persons, "is for students to continue the course after their first year. The corps is now in the army, counting the principal Indian wars, has had one year of war to every three years of peace. At the beginning of the World War, we had approximately 5,000 commissioned officers. In twelve months this number was increased to 200,000. It is perfectly obvious that not all of these men could have become efficient officers in that short time.

"Are we going to allow our sons to enter the war to be slaughtered because we haven't efficient officers to command them? Think what an advantage it would be for us to turn out 500 trained college men every year from each state university as reserve officers. If we could do this, our supply of officers would be enormous and there isn't a nation on the face of the earth that would dare to tackle us. The young man who finishes his four years of R. O. T. C. work and accepts a reserve commission is not only greatly benefiting himself, but is performing a great service to the Nation as well."

Leave off just one or two little unnecessary expenditures and enroll as a sustaining member of the Red Cross. Why not? You know that \$10 could easily be saved out of your absolutely unnecessary expenditures. The Red Cross service is worth all you pay for it.

### GIRLS' TO WEAR MIDDIES

Juniors Start Movement Toward More Sensible Dress.

Hoffin middy suits will be worn by University girls this winter.

The movement towards sensible dress was started by the junior women at their meeting in Academic Hall Friday. Sample middy blouses of navy blue serge and plaid skirts were worn by members of the committee, who will measure all University girls desiring these suits, this coming week.

Georgette waists and fancy blouses are unsuitable for school wear, the junior girls have decided. The middy suits, with the regulation white braid and emblem on the sleeve, worn with black or white handkerchief ties, are good-looking, neat, and appropriate for the winter season.

The committee on Hoffin middy suits, which came from Norfolk, Va., includes Dorothy Mantz, Eileen Lancaster and Mildred Northrup.

Miss Eva Johnston addressed the meeting. The honor system was discussed, and the girls were urged to remember that they were just as much honor bound to tell on someone else who cheats as they are to refrain from cheating themselves.

At their next meeting, try-outs will be held for a junior class yell leader, who will be on duty at the coming hockey and basketball games.

### M MEN WILL GIVE DANCE

Committed to Make Plans For Homecoming Banquet.

The M men's Club will give a dance shortly after the close of the football season, it was decided at the last meeting of the club.

A committee was appointed by Edward ("Brick") Travis, president of the club, to make arrangements for the Homecoming Banquet of the M men to be held November 24. That committee met with Z. G. Clevenger, athletic director, this afternoon.

EDDY BROWN, (violinist) plays exclusively for Columbia Records



A few of his most popular pieces.

Serenade  
Old Refrain

NO. 2882

Captice Basywe  
(Chopin)

A-5810

Cavatina (Raffi) ..... A-5904

Concerto in D. Minor ..... A-6012

Nocturne in E. Minor ..... A-5819

Oriente ..... A-6012

Polish Dance (Kreisler) ..... A-6057

Scott's Book Shop

## PHI MU ALPHA

PRESENTS

Eddy Brown

VIOLINIST

University Auditorium

Tomorrow Evening

Nov. 11, 8:15 p. m.

Single admission lower floor ..... \$2.00

Balcony (unreserved) ..... \$1.00

TICKETS NOW ON SALE

Missouri Store ..... Allen's ..... Taylor's

Phi Mu Alpha

Fourteenth Season ..... 1920-21

Mason & Hamlin Piano  
By Courtesy of  
Kieselhorst Piano Co. St. Louis

## Retail Merchants Association

7:30 p. m. Wednesday,  
in Commercial Club rooms.

Every member is requested  
to be present.

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Offering Unusual Values in Men's  
Shoes at Good Old Time Prices.

\$5.95

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Men's dark Russia calf Brogue one of the seasons. Newest Lasts a \$12 value. Extra specila at .....

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Men's Black Gunmetal English Shoes on New last with broad flat heels. Welt soles.

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\$12.45

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